



1771

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicants:	Darryl F. Clark et al.	Docket	14207
Serial No.:	09/742,830	Group:	1771
Confirmation No:	8827	Examiner:	C. Pratt
Filed:	December 20, 2000	Date:	January 3, 2003
For:	Fine Denier Multicomponent Fibers		

#5

Request for Reconsideration

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

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Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and in response to the Office Action mailed October 3, 2002, the following remarks are submitted for consideration.

Remarks

As outlined in the Office Action dated October 3, 2002, during a telephone conversation between the Examiner and the undersigned on September 3, 2002, the Examiner required a Restriction requirement. During this telephone conversation, the undersigned elected to prosecute, with traverse, the invention of Group I, claims 1-10. Applicants hereby reaffirm this election and traverse the restriction on the grounds that the invention of Group I and Group II are related as product and process of making the product where the process claims have similar but different melt-flow rate limitations as the product claims. In accordance with MPEP 821.04, Applicants reserve the right to request that the process claims, Claims 11-20, be rejoined with the product claims upon a finding that the product claims are allowable.

Currently, Claims 1-10 are under consideration by the Examiner and Claims 11-20 are withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner.

Before addressing the rejections under 35 USC § 102 and 35 USC § 103, Applicants point out that the Examiner is incorrect in his statement that the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 does not apply to this application. Applicants note that this application was filed on December 20, 2000, which is after November 29, 2000. Therefore, the AIPA does apply to this application.